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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

FEI FEI FAN,

Plaintiff,

v.

STATE OF NEVADA EX REL. BOARD
OF REGENTS OF THE NEVADA
SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION, ON
BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEVADA RENO,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:24-cv-00427-MMD-CLB

**ORDER GRANTING STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

In order to protect the confidentiality of confidential information obtained by the parties in connection with this case, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Any party or non-party may designate as "confidential" (by stamping the relevant page or other otherwise set forth herein) any document or response to discovery which that party or non-party considers in good faith to contain information involving trade secrets, or confidential personal and/or business or financial information, subject to protection under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or Nevada law ("Confidential Information") , including but not limited to (a) personnel information concerning non-parties to this case under Nevada System of Higher Education Code Section 5.6.2, (b) student information under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, and (c) any materials of an explicitly sexual nature such as images or videos. Where a document or response consists of more than one page, the first page and each page on which confidential information appears shall be so designated.

2. A party or non-party may designate information disclosed during a deposition or in response to written discovery as "confidential" by so indicating in said response or on the record at the deposition and requesting the preparation of a separate transcript

1 of such material. Additionally, a party or non-party may designate in writing, within
2 twenty (20) days after receipt of said responses or of the deposition transcript for which
3 the designation is proposed, that specific pages of the transcript and/or specific
4 responses be treated as "confidential" information. Any other party may object to such
5 proposal, in writing or on the record. Upon such objection, the parties shall follow the
6 procedures described in paragraph 8 below. After any designation made according to
7 the procedure set forth in this paragraph, the designated documents or information
8 shall be treated according to the designation until the matter is resolved according to
9 the procedures described in paragraph 8 below, and counsel for all parties shall be
10 responsible for making all previously unmarked copies of the designated material in
11 their possession or control with the specified designation.

12 3. All information produced or exchanged in the course of this case (other than
13 information that is publicly available) shall be used by the party or parties to whom the
14 information is produced solely for the purpose of this case.

15 4. Except with the prior written consent of other parties, or upon prior order of
16 this Court obtained upon notice to opposing counsel, Confidential Information shall not
17 be disclosed to any person other than:

18 (a) counsel for the respective parties to this litigation, including in-house
19 counsel and co-counsel retained for this litigation;

20 (b) employees of such counsel;

21 (c) individual defendants, class representatives, any officer or employee
22 of a party, to the extent deemed necessary by Counsel for the prosecution or
23 defense of this litigation;

24 (d) consultants or expert witnesses retained for the prosecution or
25 defense of this litigation, provided that each such person shall execute a copy of
26 the Certification annexed to this Order as Exhibit "A" (which shall be retained by
27 counsel to the party so disclosing the Confidential Information and made
28 available for inspection by opposing counsel during the pendency or after the

1 termination of the action only upon good cause shown and upon order of the
2 Court) before being shown or given any Confidential Information;

3 (e) any authors or recipients of the Confidential Information;

4 (f) the Court, Court personnel, and court reporters; and

5 (g) witnesses (other than persons described in paragraph 4(e)). A witness
6 shall sign the Certification before being shown a confidential document.
7 Confidential Information may be disclosed to a witness who will not sign the
8 Certification only in a deposition at which the party who designated the
9 Confidential Information is represented or has been given notice that
10 Confidential Information shall be designated "Confidential" pursuant to
11 paragraph 2 above. Witnesses shown Confidential Information shall not be
12 allowed to retain copies.

13 5. Any persons receiving Confidential Information shall not reveal or discuss
14 such information to or with any person who is not entitled to receive such information,
15 except as set forth herein.

16 6. Unless otherwise permitted by statute, rule or prior court order, papers filed
17 with the court under seal shall be accompanied by a contemporaneous motion for
18 leave to file those documents under seal, and shall be filed consistent with the court's
19 electronic filing procedures in accordance with Local Rule IA 10-5. Notwithstanding
20 any agreement among the parties, the party seeking to file a paper under seal bears
21 the burden of overcoming the presumption in favor of public access to papers filed in
22 court. *Kamakana v. City and County of Honolulu*, 447 F.2d 1172 (9th Cir. 2006).

23 7. A party may designate as "Confidential" documents or discovery materials
24 produced by a non-party by providing written notice to all parties of the relevant
25 document numbers or other identification within 30 days after receiving such
26 documents or discovery materials. Any party or non-party may voluntarily disclose to
27 others without restriction any information designated by that party or non-party as
28 confidential, although a document may lose its confidential status if it is made public.

1 8. If a party contends that any material is not entitled to confidential treatment,
2 such party may at any time give written notice to the party or non-party who designated
3 the material. The party or non-party who designated the material shall have twenty-five
4 (25) days from the receipt of such written notice to apply to the Court for an order
5 designating the material as confidential. The party or non-party seeking the order has
6 the burden of establishing that the document is entitled to protection.

7 9. Notwithstanding any challenge to the designation of material as Confidential
8 Information, all documents shall be treated as such and shall be subject to the
9 provisions hereof unless and until one of the following occurs:

10 (a) the party or non-party claims that the material is Confidential
11 Information withdraws such designation in writing; or

12 (b) the party or non-party who claims that the material is Confidential
13 Information fails to apply to the Court for an order designating the material
14 confidential within the time period specified above after receipt of a written
15 challenge to such designation; or

16 (c) the Court rules the material is not confidential.

17 10. All provisions of this Order restricting the communication or use of
18 Confidential Information shall continue to be binding after the conclusion of this action,
19 unless otherwise agreed or ordered. Upon conclusion of the litigation, a party in the
20 possession of Confidential Information, other than that which is contained in pleadings,
21 correspondence, and deposition transcripts, shall either (a) return such documents no
22 later than thirty (30) days after conclusion of this action to counsel for the party or non-
23 party who provided such information, or (b) destroy such documents within the time
24 period upon consent of the party who provided the information and certify in writing
25 within thirty (30) days that the documents have been destroyed.

26 11. The terms of this Order do not preclude, limit, restrict, or otherwise apply to
27 the use of documents at trial.
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1 12. Nothing herein shall be deemed to waive any applicable privilege, work
2 product protection, confidentiality or protection afforded by state or federal regulation,
3 statute or law. Nothing herein shall be deemed to affect the ability of a party to seek
4 relief for an inadvertent disclosure of material protected by privilege, work product
5 protection, confidentiality or protection afforded by state or federal regulation, statute or
6 law.

7 13. Any witness or other person, firm, or entity from which discovery is sought
8 may be informed of and may obtain the protection of this Order by written advice to the
9 parties' respective counsel or by oral advice at the time of any deposition or similar
10 proceeding.

11 14. The court's jurisdiction over this agreement shall terminate upon dismissal of
12 this action.

13 Dated: February 18, 2025

Dated: February 18, 2025

14 /s/ Trevor J. Hatfield
15 Trevor J. Hatfield
16 HATFIELD & ASSOCIATES, LTD.
17 703 South Eighth Street
18 Las Vegas, NV 89101
19 (702) 388-4469
20 Attorney for Plaintiff

/s/ Frank Z. LaForge
Frank Z. LaForge
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO
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(775) 784-3512
Attorney for Defendant

21 **ORDER**

22 Pursuant to the foregoing stipulation of the Parties, **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

23 
24 **UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

25
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27 Dated: February 19, 2025
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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify my understanding that Confidential Information is being provided to me pursuant to the terms and restrictions of the Protective Order dated _____, in *Fan v. Nevada System of Higher Education*, Civil No. 3:24-cv-00427-MMD-CLB. I have been given a copy of that Order and read it. I agree to be bound by the Order. I will not reveal the Confidential Information to anyone, except as allowed by the Order. I will maintain all such Confidential Information ☐ including copies, notes, or other transcriptions made therefrom -- in a secure manner to prevent unauthorized access to it. No later than thirty 30 days after the conclusion of this action, I will return the Confidential Information—including copies, notes or other transcriptions made therefrom—to the counsel who provided me with the Confidential Information. I hereby consent to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the purpose of enforcing the Protective Order.

DATED: _____
